

CLARK COUNTY CLEAN WATER COMMISSION

Meeting Notes

Wednesday, May 7, 2003

6:00 – 8:30 PM

Clark County Public Works Department

Conference Room

4700 NE 78th Street

Vancouver, WA

Clark County Clean Water Commission Members Present

Robbie Agard, Anne Jackson, Bill Owen, Susan Rasmussen, Judy Schramm and Don Stienke

Clark County Clean Water Commission Members Absent

Mary Martin, Art Stubbs and Virginia vanBreeman

Clark County Public Works Staff

Cary Armstrong, Kelli Frost, Sam Giese and Earl Rowell

Clark County Department of Community Development Staff

Ronald Freer, Sheila Pendleton-Orme and Boe Richards

Clark County ESA Program Staff

Joel Rupley

Audience

Iloba Odum, Department of Ecology; and Lew Scholl

Call to Order

Introduction

The members of the Clark County Clean Water Commission, audience, and Clark County staff were introduced. The meeting was then called to order.

Agenda and material review

The material for the meeting include:

1. 5/7/03 Clark County Clean Water Commission meeting agenda.
2. 4/2/03 Clark County Clean Water Commission key points.

4/2/03 meeting notes

The 4/2/03 Clean Water Commission meeting key points were approved as written.

Communications with the public, media, and/or agencies

Mr. Rowell stated that Water Resources staff is working with the Treasurer's office and GIS preparing the Clean Water Program fee billing. The bills should be mailed in June and are due July 31, 2003.

Mr. Rowell is coordinating with the BOCC to schedule a luncheon for the BOCC and Clean Water Commission in June. *[post meeting note: the tentative date is June 17th; invitations to the luncheon will be sent]*

Capital Improvement Subcommittee Update

Mr. Giese provided an update of the Capital Improvement Subcommittee, which has developed a list of potential projects and is now in the process of ranking them. They will be meeting on May 19 to develop a list of the highest-ranking projects, which will then be presented to the Clean Water Commission at the June 4 meeting.

Mrs. Schramm added that they are ranking the projects based on cost value, partnership, preservation restoration, environmental design, future need, feasibility and maintenance.

Mr. Owens remarked that if the Clean Water Commissioners had other criteria that they would like to add to the ranking list, to please let the subcommittee know before the May 19 meeting.

Department of Community Development Update

Mr. Freer, Ms. Pendleton-Orme and Ms. Richards discussed how each of their positions supports NPDES requirements.

Mr. Freer with Development and Review stated that county engineers review all project designs before they are approved for development. All projects must meet the NPDES requirements before they are approved.

Once projects are approved it is transferred to the Development Inspection Department. Developers must have an erosion control specialist on staff before projects are approved for construction. Development inspectors monitor project sites at least once week and a final erosion control inspection is completed before projects are handed off to Building Inspectors.

Mr. Owen asked if the County requires people to be re-certified in erosion control?

Mr. Freer replied that the way the ordinance is written it only states that one needs to be certified once, there is no stipulation stating that they need to be re-certified.

The Clean Water Commissioners replied that this might be an issue that needs to be revised between developers and Community Development.

Ms. Richards, a building inspector, works with contractors to make sure they are meeting erosion control measures. There needs to be consistency and more education to contractors and homeowners regarding erosion control and BMP's.

Ms. Pendleton-Orme, from Code Enforcement, monitors projects to make sure erosion control measures are in effect. Although they are authorized to write citations they view them as a last resort unless there is an egregious violation. Educating developers and staff works better.

Mr. Stienke saluted the builders and the County for the amazing job they do at erosion control.

Mr. Agard added that if you were to look at practices 15 – 20 years ago there is a tremendous improvement from the way they are handled now.

Mr. Owen asked what the Clean Water Commission's role was in helping improve these practices further.

Mr. Armstrong suggested that the Clean Water Commission work with the Home Owners Association to develop a better erosion control test.

Motion 2003-0507-02: Mr. Stienke moves for the Department of Community Development to submit proposals on what improvements need to be made so the Clean Water Commission can support you.

Motion approved by all present Clean Water Commission members

[It should noted that Water Resources staff will coordinate with Community Development staff. Water Resources will provide the results back to the CWC. Should the CWC have questions about this request, they should feel free to contact Water Resources staff.]

NPDES Stormwater Specific Education and Outreach (specific to businesses)

Mr. Armstrong introduced himself to the Clean Water Commission and described some of his duties as a Water Resources staff member. Mr. Armstrong has been working within sub-basins and targeting businesses that could potentially have a source control problem with pollutants. He works with these businesses to educate them about the ordinance, making them aware of what Watershed they are in and letting them know pollutants that run off their property can end up in a creek. He also helps to educate these businesses on how they can correct any pollutant problems they may have.

Other activities that Mr. Armstrong works on are, but not limited to:

- Investigating residential complaints
- Educating maintenance and grounds keeping staff on BMP's practices in the various school's that participate in the Clean Water Program Fee waiver.
- Working with Solid Waste on the Earth Saver program which educates 6th and 7th graders on energy use and natural resources.

Clark County ESA program

Mr. Rupley discussed how the ESA program and their advisory committee has been working on a 4-d compliance certification for ordinances. This involves technical and subjective review of ordinances. Once completed the advisory committee will then recommend changes.

The ESA program is also working on a Watershed Template that will allow one to analyze watersheds on a broader scale

Ms. Rasmussen asked the Clean Water Commissioners to provide her a list of topics to discuss at future Clean Water Commission meetings.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on June 4 2003, @ 6:30 p.m., at Clark County Public Works Department Conference Room, 4700 NE 78th Street, Vancouver.

Adjourn

The Clean Water Commission meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectively Submitted,

Kelli Frost

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